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AP English Pd. 4

Title Analysis Reflection

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At first the prompt had seemed as though it was not going to be difficult. However, I soon discovered that it was. My first dilemma was choosing which poem I was going to analyze. I read all the poems and narrowed my selection down to two, choosing to do the title analysis on “The Good-Morrow” or “Barbie Doll.” I mainly chose “The Good-Morrow” because a vast majority of the class chose the other poem; I realized shortly I would have been better off with using the other poem. It took me what seemed like forever to understand everything John Donne was talking about in his poem—I even annotated it. Then when it finally came to analyzing the title, I did not know where to begin. Luckily, after much analysis, I eventually came to understand pretty much everything about the poem.

I was very happy that I did not have problems with passive voice. You have no idea. I find it an extreme accomplishment that I did not have problems with passive voice. Last time, with the “This I Believe” essay, I found I had no issues with passive voice and I believe I almost have a grasp on it. The only two problems I had with “Lower Order Concerns” were conjunctive adverbs and unnecessary commas. I have always had a problem with commas, so it was not really a surprise but I am glad it only happened once in this assignment. As for conjunctive adverbs… that took me even longer than understanding the poem to fix. First, I was extremely confused with Mr. Lane’s comment. I understood the sentence needed to be fixed; I read over the sentence and I knew what was wrong and what needed to be fixed but I had no idea what exactly to do. The other problem was that the answer to my problems was found not on page 336 of the *Holt Handbook* like the “Skills Pages: Lower Order Concerns” list gave me, but twenty pages after that, on page 356. That was a nightmare.

First of all, this was my worst paper of the year. I am not particularly pleased with my grade on this paper and next time I plan to do much better. I could have done a better job explaining certain words in the first stanza. I did end up fixing that issue and the paragraph (and paper) is much better. Than later in the paper I had a problem with which words I was going to analyze. I fixed this as well. I had originally used the phrase “none can die” but I switched that with “none can slacken” and specifically analyzed the word “slacken.” From all the mistakes I had in this essay, I plan on really paying attention to my commas, independent clauses, and the prompt itself. I also still plan on paying attention to passive voice (it has worked so far, so maybe there’s still hope for me yet).